Amendment to the Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~including~~ comprising:

a liquid continuous phase and

a liquid discontinuous phase which is substantially immiscible in the continuous phase, ~~characterised by~~

wherein the continuous phase ~~having~~ has a high electrical volume resistivity and the discontinuous phase ~~comprising or including~~ comprises a reagent and ~~being~~ is electrically charged.

2. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter as in Claim 1 wherein the reagent is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a bio-active agent, an activated nucleoside amidite (A, C, G or T), an activated oligonucleotide, a reagent or reactant including an acid or a base, a blocking chemical, a de-blocking chemical, an organic or inorganic derivatisation chemical, a catalyst, a pharmaceutical, a dye, ~~or~~ a pigment, and combinations thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~including~~ comprising:

a liquid continuous phase,

a liquid discontinuous phase which is substantially immiscible in the continuous phase and

a surfactant, ~~characterised by~~

wherein the continuous phase ~~having~~ has a high volume resistivity, the discontinuous phase ~~being~~ is electrically charged and the surfactant ~~being~~ is selected to not significantly reduce the volume resistivity of the continuous phase.

4. (Original) A composition of matter as in Claim 3 wherein the surfactant has a first part which is compatible with the continuous phase and a second part which is compatible with the discontinuous phase.

5. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter as in Claim 3 further ~~including~~ comprising in the discontinuous phase a compound selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a bio-active agent, an activated nucleoside amidite (A, C, G or T), an activated oligonucleotide, a reagent or reactant including an acid or a base, a blocking chemical, a de-blocking chemical, an organic or inorganic derivatisation chemical, a catalyst, a pharmaceutical, a dye, ~~or~~ a pigment, and combinations thereof. [[.]]

6-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 3 [[4]] further ~~including~~ comprising a charge control agent.

17. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 16 wherein the charge control agent is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of an acid and its salts, an organic acid and its salts, ~~or~~ an ionic compound, ~~or~~ a zwitterionic compound, and combinations thereof.

18. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 16 wherein the charge control agent is selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of metallic soaps wherein the metal includes: barium, calcium, magnesium, strontium, zinc, cadmium, aluminium, gallium, lead, chromium, manganese, iron, nickel, zirconium and cobalt and the acid portion is provided by a carboxylic acid, ~~e.g., caproic acid, octanoic (caprylic) acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, linolic acid, erucic acid, tallitic acid, resinic acid, naphthenic acid, succinic acid,~~ a phospholipid, and combinations thereof, or where the continuous phase is a fluoro-chemical the charge control agent ~~includes~~ comprises a fluorine analogue of the compounds listed above.

19. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 3 [[4]] wherein the continuous phase is present in the range of about 40 to 99.99 per cent by volume, the discontinuous phase is present in a range of from about 0.01 to 60 per cent by volume~~, optionally a surfactant present in a range of about 0.01 to 20 per cent by weight and a charge control agent present in a range of 0.01 to 10 per cent by weight~~.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 3 [[4]] wherein the discontinuous phase has a droplet size of from about 100 microns down to 0.2 microns.

21. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 3 [[4]] wherein the emulsion is a mini-emulsion with a discontinuous

phase having a droplet size from 1000 nanometres down to about 50 nanometres.

22. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter ~~An emulsion~~ as in Claim 3 [[4]] wherein the emulsion is a micro-emulsion with a discontinuous phase having a droplet size of from about 200 nanometres down to 1 nanometre.

23-33.(Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An emulsion ~~including~~ comprising:

a continuous phase,

a discontinuous phase which is immiscible in the continuous phase, and

a surfactant, the surfactant having a first part which is compatible with the continuous phase and a second part which is compatible with the discontinuous phase, ~~characterised by~~

wherein the continuous phase ~~having~~ has a high volume resistivity, the discontinuous phase ~~being~~ is electrically charged and ~~including~~ comprises a compound selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a bio-active agent, an activated nucleoside amidite (A, C, G or T), an activated oligonucleotide, a reagent or reactant including acids and bases, a blocking chemical, a de-blocking chemical, an organic or inorganic derivatisation chemical, a catalyst, a pharmaceutical, a dye, ~~or~~ a pigment, and combinations thereof and the surfactant ~~being~~ is selected to not significantly reduce the volume resistivity of the continuous phase.

35. (Currently Amended) An emulsion ~~including~~ comprising:

a continuous phase and

a discontinuous phase which is immiscible in the continuous phase, ~~characterised by~~

wherein the continuous phase ~~having~~ has a high volume resistivity, the discontinuous phase ~~being~~ is electrically charged and ~~including~~ comprises a compound selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a bio-active agent, an activated nucleoside amidite (A, C, G or T), an activated oligonucleotide, a reagent or reactant including acids and bases, a blocking chemical, a de-blocking chemical, an organic or inorganic derivatisation chemical, a catalyst, a pharmaceutical, a dye, ~~or~~ a pigment, and combinations thereof.

36. (New) A composition of matter as in Claim 18 wherein the carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of caproic acid, octanoic (caprylic) acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, oleic acid, linolic acid, erucic acid, tallitic acid, resinic acid, naphthenic acid, succinic acid, and combinations thereof.

37. (New) A composition of matter as in Claim 19 wherein the surfactant is present in a range of about 0.01 to 20 per cent by weight.

38. (New) A composition of matter as in Claim 16 wherein the charge control agent is present in a range of 0.01 to 10 per cent by weight.

39. (New) A composition of matter as in Claim 1 wherein the liquid continuous phase is electrically insulative.

40. (New) A composition of matter as in Claim 3 wherein the liquid continuous phase is electrically insulative.

41. (New) An emulsion as in Claim 34 wherein the continuous phase is electrically insulative.

42. (New) An emulsion as in Claim 35 wherein the continuous phase is electrically insulative.